Environmental Impact Assessment Notification

2944. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Notifications of August, 2005;

(b) whether any process of consultation was followed before the framing of EIA Notifications and whether his Ministry has undertaken any review of 1994 EIA Rules; and

(c) if so, what are the salient features of the review and whether his Ministry will table the report of the said review in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Draft Notification on the revised environmental clearance process issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 15th September, 2005 is yet to be finalized. The responses received from various stakeholders are under examination.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Draft Notification dated 15th September, 2005 was an outcome of the comprehensive review of the existing Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 1994 and Environmental Clearance Process undertaken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, recommendations for the regulatory reforms by the Govindarajan Committee constituted by the Central Government for reforming investment approval and implementation procedures, detailed consultations with the State Environment Ministers, State Environment Secretaries, concerned Central Government Ministries/Departments, Non-Government Organization and Industry Associations.

The Draft Notification as and when it is finalized and issued in the Gazette of India will be laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament as per parliamentary procedures.

Plastic bags

†2945. SHRI GIRISH KUMAR SANGHI:
DR. PRABHA THAKUR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacturing and use of plastic is harmful for environment and health;

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.